Laddakh region of Jammu and Kashmir had not been opened for the foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the places of the said region where the foreign tourists are allowed to visit at present; and

(d) the period for which the foreigners can stay at Ladakh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b). Foreign tourists in groups consisting of 4 or more persons sponsored by recognised tour operators are permitted to visit the following places, for a maximum period of 7 days after obtaining necessary permit from the competent authority.

Places

(i) *Khaltse Sub-Division (Drokanpa Area)*

(a) Khaltse-Dumkhar-Skorduchan-Hanudo-Biama-Dha.

(ii) *Nubra Sub-Division*

(a) Leh-Khardung La-Khalsar-Tirit upto Panamik.

(b) Leh-Khardung La-Khalsar upto Hunder

(c) Leh-Sabo-Digar La-Digar-Labab-Khandgru Gampa-Tangar.
(Only for trekking conducted by approved tour operators and accompanied by State Police Personnel).

(iii) Nyoma Sub-Division

(a) Leh-Upshi-Chumathang-Mahe-Puga-Tso-Morari Lake/Korzok.

(b) Leh-Upshi-Debring-Puga-Tso-Morari Lake/Korzok.

(c) Leh-Karu-Chang La-Durbuk-Tangtse-Lukung-Spankmik (Pangong Lake upto Spankmik).

Basic Amenities

1868. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to improve the basic amenities in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the amount to be allocated for the purpose during 1997-98; and

(d) if so, the extent of increase alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

Seven Basic Services have been identified to be given priority for implementation under the Minimum Programme. The Services identified are :

(1) 100 per cent coverage of provision of safe drinking water in rural and urban areas.

(2) 100 per cent coverage of primary health facilities in rural and urban areas.

(3) Universalisation of primary education.

(4) Provision of public housing assistance to all shelterless poor families.

(5) Extension of mid-day meal programme in primary schools, to all rural blocks and urban slums and disadvantaged sections.

(6) Provision of connectivity to all unconnected villages and habitations.

(7) Streamlining the public ditribution with focus on the poor.

In the budget of 1996-97, Rs. 2466 crores have been provided as additional Central Assistance to States earmarked for these seven Basic Minimum Services.

(c) and (d). No decision has yet been taken regarding the amount to be allocated under the programme during 1997-98.

[English]

Fruit Processing Industries

1869. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of Fruit Processing Industries in the cooperative sector in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government have provided any financial assistance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) At present, there are 23 units engaged in the processing of fruits and vegetables in cooperative sector in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c). Ministry of Food Processing Industries has provided financial assistance amounting to Rs. 264.37 lakhs under its various plan schemes during the Eighth Plan period for the development of fruits and vegetables processing units in cooperative sector in Maharashtra. Besides, financial assistance is also provided by the National Horticulture Board, Agricultural

Products Export Development Authority and National Cooperative Development Corporation for development of fruits and vegetables processing in the cooperative sector.

Allotment of Plot

1870. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1588 on August 4, 1993 and state :

(a) the reasons for not allotting a Developed plot to the lone person who could not be allotted a plot from among the plots developed in the northern region;

(b) whether the said person had refused to take a Developed plot of smaller size in the northern region which the Delhi Development Authority was offering him because DDA was having plot of bigger sizes and it was allotting them to other on partisan consideration;

(c) if so, whether any inquiry was conducted into this matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b). The DDA has reported that the lone recommendee was initially recommended by the Land and Building Department for allotment of a plot of 200 sq. yds. in South Zone in lieu of his land acquired in South Zone. Pursuant to the said recommendation, the recommendee was offered a plot of land measuring 200 sq. yds. in Malviya Nagar Residential Scheme on 30.10.73. The said recommendee represented for allotment of a bigger size of 400 sq. yds. plot. His request was examined by the Land and Building Department and he was advised vide letter dated 12.11.73 to accept the allotment of 200 sq. yds. plot failing which he will have to wait till such time the plots of 400 sq. yds. becomes available for allotment. The recomendee was asked to convey his option accordingly. The recommendee rejected the offer of allotment of 200 sq. yds. plot in Saket and requested for allotment of 400 sq. yds. plot as and when available. In the year 1986, since the plot in South Zone was not available, the recommendee was asked to exercise his option for allotment of a plot of 200 to 250 sq.yds. vide letter dated 19.8.86. The recommendee however failed to accept the offer and insisted for the allotment of a bigger size plot. A draw of plots for allotment of alternative plots was held on 15.10.1993 and the recommendee was allotted a plot measuring 330 sq. mts. in Rohini Residential Scheme. The demand-cum-allotment letter was issued on 28.10.1993 but the recommendee has failed to deposit the demanded amount till date. Aggrieved with the decision of DDA for allotment of plot in Rohini, the recommendee has filed a suit in the High Court. The matter is sub-judice.

(c) and (d). Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Expansion of Science Base

1871. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state whether the Ministry make a comprehensive study alongwith Ministry of Industry and Human Resource Development to make a fresh move to expand the base of Science and Research Laboratories at the corporate level of Industries as well as to ensure that in the 9th plan period every Degree College and 12th Class Secondary School in the country should have a Science stream and Science Laboratory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) A study on Science Education and Technology Development was conducted by Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council, an autonomous institution of the DST in 1995. The study interalia has suggested reorientation and Strengthening of science education. Expanding the base of R & D in industry is an ongoing activity of this Ministry.

Financial Assistance to FPI

1872. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided for development of Food Processing Industrial Parks, Statewise;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA) has submitted and project in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether central assistance has been granted for the same;

(e) if not, the reason therefor; and

(f) whether such Industrial Park can set up in 70 Acres of land in Kannathunad or Muuathupuzha taluks of Ernakalam District in Kerala with Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) While our Plan Schemes are not State specific, during the year 1995-96, a proposal seeking financial assistance was received from Government of West Bengal and financial assistance of Rs. 75.00 lakhs has been provided in that year for setting up of a Food Processing Industrial Park at Danmuni in West Bengal.